2017-2018 House Rural Development Council
June 15-16, 2017 Agenda
North Georgia Technical College, Toccoa, Georgia

Business Start Up and Financing/Economic Development

Thursday

12:30–12:45  Welcome – Co-Chairs England and Powell

12:45–1:15    Local Welcome – Mayor Jeanette Jamieson; County Commission Vice Chair Michele Ivester; Julie Paysen, President of Chamber of Commerce:
               ▪  State of local businesses for area

1:15–2:00    Georgia Economic Development – Pat Wilson, Commissioner:
               ▪  What type of businesses would tend to locate in rural Georgia
               ▪  What barriers exist to business location in rural Georgia

2:00–2:15   Break

2:15–3:00    Georgia Department of Community Affairs – Rusty Haygood:
               ▪  What can the state of Georgia do to create jobs in rural Georgia
               ▪  What are minimum amenities/infrastructure required for a community to be ready for economic development

3:00–3:40   Georgia Bankers Association – Joe Brannen, President/CEO Georgia Bankers Association; L. Jackson McConnell, President & CEO Pinnacle Bank, Elberton; Ken Bibb, The Geo. D. Warthen Bank, Sandersville; Bill Thompson, EVP/Chief Lending Officer, Queensborough National Bank & Trust Co., Augusta:
               ▪  Issues with assisting small business and what opportunities are out there for the small business owners

cont.

cc:  Speaker David Ralston
     Bill Reilly, Clerk of the House
     Tim Bearden, Director of Member & Administrative Services
     House Budget and Research
     House Media Services
     Majority Caucus
     Minority Caucus
     Rural Development Council Partners
3:40–4:00 Overview of Site Locators for Rural Georgia – Walt Farrell, Ga. Power (Presenter); Pat Merritt, Ga. EMCs; Lonnie Smallwood, Georgia Electric Cities

4:00–4:30 House Budget and Research – Blake Doss:
  ▪ What other states are doing to incentivize economic development in rural areas

4:30–5:00 Questions for Presenters and Council Discussion